



**WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE**

**MAC WARNER**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION**

**eFILED**

5/11/2021 11:52:51 AM

Office of West Virginia  
Secretary Of State

**NOTICE OF FINAL FILING AND ADOPTION OF A LEGISLATIVE RULE AUTHORIZED  
BY THE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

AGENCY: Pharmacy TITLE-SERIES: 15-12  
RULE TYPE: Legislative Amendment to Existing Rule: Yes Repeal of existing rule: No  
RULE NAME: BOARD OF PHARMACY RULES FOR  
IMMUNIZATIONS ADMINISTERED BY  
PHARMACISTS AND PHARMACY INTERNS

CITE STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 30-5-7 and 29A-3-15

The above rule has been authorized by the West Virginia Legislature.

Authorization is cited in (house or senate bill number) 182

Section one Passed On 3/23/2021 12:00:00 AM

This rule is filed with the Secretary of State. This rule becomes effective on the following date:

June 11, 2021

This rule shall terminate and have no further force or effect from the following date:

August 01, 2031

**BY CHOOSING 'YES', I ATTEST THAT THE PREVIOUS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.**

Yes

**Ryan L Hatfield -- By my signature, I certify that I am the person authorized to file legislative rules, in accordance with West Virginia Code §29A-3-11 and §39A-3-2.**

TITLE 15  
LEGISLATIVE RULE  
WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHARMACY

SERIES 12  
BOARD OF PHARMACY RULES FOR  
IMMUNIZATIONS ADMINISTERED BY PHARMACISTS AND PHARMACY  
INTERNS

**§15-12-1. General.**

1.1. Scope. -- To provide the rules for pharmacists and pharmacy interns to administer immunizations to patients in this State through joint rulemaking by the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy, Board of Medicine, and Board of Osteopathy.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code § 30-5-7 and 29A-3-15.

1.3. Filing Date. -- May 11, 2021

1.4. Effective Date. -- June 11, 2021

1.5. Sunset Date -- This rule shall terminate and have no further force or effect on August 1, 2031.

**§15-12-2. Definitions.**

2.1. "Board" means the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy.

2.2. "Immunizations" means the action of making a person immune to infection, typically by inoculation.

2.3. "Personal supervision" means the supervising immunizing pharmacist is physically present in the room during the administration of an immunization.

**§15-12-3. Immunizations.**

3.1 A licensed pharmacist or pharmacy intern may administer immunizations in accordance with definitive treatment guidelines for immunizations promulgated by the latest notice from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including, but not limited to, the CDC's recommended immunization schedule for adults, children, and adolescents.

3.2. A licensed pharmacist or pharmacy intern may administer immunizations in accordance with definitive treatment guidelines for immunizations promulgated by the latest notice from the CDC, including, but not limited to, the CDC's recommended immunization schedule for adults, children, and adolescents to a person age 11 through 17, with written informed parental consent when presented with a prescription from a physician and there are no contraindications to that patient receiving that vaccine.

**§15-12-4. Qualifications.**

4.1 A licensed pharmacist may immunize as provided in section three provided the pharmacist has met all of the following requirements:

4.1.a. register with the board to administer immunizations;

4.1.b. successfully completed the American Pharmacists Association's (APhA) immunization training program, as provided in section 9, which courses shall be based on the standards established for immunization training by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the public health service of the United States Department of Health and Human Services;

4.1.c. maintains current certification in basic life-support training, including basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), from the American Heart Association, or the American Red Cross; and

4.1.d. completed a minimum of two hours of continuing pharmacy education related to immunizations each licensing year for a total of 4 four hours each renewal period. The continuing education shall be by a provider approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (A.C.P.E.).

4.2. A pharmacy intern licensed by the Board may administer immunizations as permitted by this rule provided that:

4.2.a. the pharmacy intern is under the personal supervision by a pharmacist who is registered with the board to administer immunizations; and

4.2.b. has completed all of the training and current certification required by subsections 4.1.b. and 4.1.c. of this section.

4.3. It is unprofessional conduct for a pharmacist or pharmacy intern to administer an immunization, who is not in compliance with this rule.

**§15-12-5. Registration.**

5.1. Prior to administering immunizations, a pharmacist shall submit an application supplied by the Board for review and approval of the Board, providing that all of the requirements of Section 4.1. have been met. The application shall be submitted along with a required fee of \$10.00. Provided all requirements of Section 4.1. have been met and the required fee is received, the Board shall issue a registration to administer immunizations. Registrations shall expire biennially on June 30 of year in which the pharmacist's license to practice pharmacy expires.

5.2. The registration shall be posted conspicuously at any location at which the pharmacist is administering an immunization.

5.3. Prior to administering immunizations, a pharmacy intern shall provide to his or her supervising pharmacist documentation that the pharmacy intern has completed all of the training and current certification required by subsections 4.1.b. and 4.1.c. of this rule. The supervising pharmacist shall maintain this documentation in the pharmacy where the pharmacist and pharmacy intern who administers an immunization is employed or otherwise practicing at the time any immunization is administered by a pharmacy intern.

**§15-12-6. Immunizations.**

6.1. Immunizations authorized by this rule shall be administered:

6.1.a. in accordance with definitive treatment guidelines for immunizations promulgated by the latest notice from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including, but not limited to, CDC's recommended immunization schedule for adults and children and adolescents, including the footnotes provided for each schedule, available at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>; or

6.1.b. in accordance with an order from a properly authorized practitioner for minors age eleven through eighteen, the order shall be a prescription from an authorized physician.

6.2. Administration shall be done in accordance with the training required by section 4.1.b. including, but not limited to indications, contraindications, route of administration, sanitary environment for administration, specifics regarding administration, and storage requirements for each specific immunization authorized by this rule, and, when done pursuant to a prescription, in accordance therewith;

6.3. Administration shall include implementation of the CDC's recommended appropriate observation for an adverse reaction of an individual following an immunization.

6.4. Under no circumstances may a pharmacist delegate his or her authority to administer immunizations to any other person, except as otherwise provided herein for a properly trained pharmacy intern who is administering under the personal supervision of the pharmacist.

6.5. A current Vaccine Information Statement, as provided by CDC, shall be provided to each person receiving an immunization for each immunization administered.

**§15-12-7. Record-keeping and reporting.**

7.1. An immunization questionnaire and consent form shall be completed for each person receiving an immunization. When the immunization is for influenza or HPV for a minor age eleven through eighteen years of age, the questionnaire and consent form shall include written informed parental consent for the minor. A record of the immunization administration shall be forwarded to the primary care physician or other licensed health care provider as identified by the person receiving the immunization, within not more than 30 days of the date of the administration. In the event that the patient affirmatively indicates in writing that he or she does not have a primary care physician or other health care provider to whom to forward the report, the pharmacist or pharmacy intern shall document such in the immunization record, and provide a record of the immunization administration to the patient. The record shall contain the name of the pharmacist, and, where applicable, the name of the pharmacy intern administering the immunization.

7.2. The pharmacist shall report the administration of the patient immunization to the West Virginia Statewide Immunization Information (WVSII) database in the format and containing such information as may be required by the WVSII within not more than 30 days of the date of the administration.

7.3. The immunization questionnaire, consent form and record of the immunization administration shall be filed in the pharmacy in a manner that will allow timely retrieval, and shall be kept on file for a time period not less than five years from the date of the immunization. All such records shall be maintained in the pharmacy where the immunization is administered. In the event it is administered off-site, then the records shall be maintained in the pharmacy where the pharmacist or pharmacy intern who administered the immunization is employed or otherwise practicing at the time the immunization is given.

7.4. A pharmacist shall report all adverse events to the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS), and promptly provide a copy of all reports to the Board; the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Bureau for Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services, Division of Immunization Services; and the patient's primary care physician or other licensed health care provider as identified by the person receiving the immunization in accordance with subsection 7.1. VAERS is a national vaccine safety surveillance program co-sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and is available at <http://vaers.hhs.gov/index>.

#### **§15-12-8. Emergencies.**

8.1. A pharmacist or pharmacy intern authorized to administer immunizations under this rule may administer epinephrine and diphenhydramine in the management of an acute allergic reaction to an immunization following guidelines issued by CDC.

8.2. A pharmacist or pharmacy intern shall have a readily retrievable emergency response plan as outlined by the CDC, and maintain a readily retrievable emergency kit to manage an acute allergic reaction to an immunization administered.

#### **§15-12-9. Immunization Training Programs.**

9.1. The Board shall approve a course or program in immunization administration for that course to be used to meet the qualification requirement of section 4.1.b. In order to be approved by the Board, the course or program, at a minimum, shall include practical training and instruction on the following:

- 9.1.a. basic immunology, including the human immune response;
- 9.1.b. adverse reactions, contraindications, warnings and precautions;
- 9.1.c. response to emergency situations, including administration of epinephrine and diphenhydramine;
- 9.1.d. storage and handling requirements;
- 9.1.e. recordkeeping and reporting requirements, including screening and informed consent documentation;
- 9.1.f. proper environment for administration and observation;
- 9.1.g. legal and regulatory issues, including, but not limited to, state law and regulations, OSHA compliance, biohazard control, and such other relevant and applicable standards; and

9.1.h. policies and procedures for establishing and implementing appropriate immunization treatment guidelines.

9.2. A course approved by the Board shall include a minimum of fifteen hours of didactic and practical based components of instruction and training, including self study and live instruction. The live instruction shall be a minimum of six hours, and shall include documented and supervised instruction on physical administration of vaccinations.